REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Examiner is requiring restriction to one of the following groups:

Group I: Claims 29-40, drawn to compounds of formula (I) wherein:

n is zero;

variable R1, R2, M, X have the original definitions in claim 1.

Group II: Claims 29-40, drawn to compounds of formula (I) wherein:

n is one;

variable R1, R2, M, X have the original definitions in claim 1.

Group III: Claims 29-40, drawn to compounds of formula (I) wherein:

n is two;

variable R1, R2, M, X have the original definitions in claim 1.

Group IV: Claims 29-40, drawn to compounds of formula (I) wherein:

A is R1-C=C-R2;

variable R1, R2, M, X have the original definitions in claim 1.

Group V: Claims 29-40, drawn to compounds of formula (I) wherein:

A is aryl or cyclohexyl;

variable R1, R2, M, X have the original definitions in claim 1.

Group VI: Claims 29-40, drawn to compounds of formula (I) wherein:

variable R1, R2, M, X have the original definitions in claim 1.

Group VII: Claims 41-53, drawn to the process of making compounds of formula (I) wherein:

n is zero;

variable R1, R2, M, X have the original definitions in claim 1.

Group VIII: Claims 41-53, drawn to the process of making compounds of formula (I) wherein:

n is one;

variable R1, R2, M, X have the original definitions in claim 1.

Group IX: Claims 41-53, drawn to the process of making compounds of formula (I) wherein:

n is two;

variable R1, R2, M, X have the original definitions in claim 1.

Group X: Claims 41-53, drawn to the process of making compounds of formula

(I) wherein:

A is R1-C=C=R2;

variable R1, R2, M, X have the original definitions in claim 1.

Group XI: Claims 41-53, drawn to the process of making compounds of formula

(I) wherein:

A is aryl or cyclohexyl;

variable R1, R2, M, X have the original definitions in claim 1.

Group XII: Claims 41-53, drawn to the process of making compounds of formula (I) wherein:

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variable R1, R2, M, X have the original definitions in claim 1.

Group XIII: Claims 54 and 55, drawn to a bleach or a disinfectant comprising the compounds of formula (I) wherein:

n is zero;

variable R1, R2, M, X have the original definitions in claim 1.

Group XIV: Claims 54 and 55, drawn to a bleach or a disinfectant comprising the compounds of formula (I) wherein:

n is one;

variable R1, R2, M, X have the original definitions in claim 1.

Group XV: Claims 54 and 55, drawn to a bleach or a disinfectant comprising the compounds of formula (I) wherein:

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n is two;

variable R1, R2, M, X have the original definitions in claim 1.

Group XVI: Claims 54 and 55, drawn to a bleach or a disinfectant comprising the compounds of formula (I) wherein:

A is
$$R1-C=C=R2$$
;

variable R1, R2, M, X have the original definitions in claim 1.

Group XVII: Claims 54 and 55, drawn to a bleach or a disinfectant comprising the compounds of formula (I) wherein:

A is aryl or cyclohexyl;

variable R1, R2, M, X have the original definitions in claim 1.

Group XVIII: Claims 54 and 55, drawn to a bleach or a disinfectant comprising the compounds of formula (I) wherein:

variable R1, R2, M, X have the original definitions in claim 1.

Applicants hereby elect Group V, Claims 29-40, drawn to compounds of formula (I) wherein A is aryl or cyclohexyl and variable R1, R2, M and X have the original definition in claim 1, with traverse, on the grounds that no adequate reasons and/or examples have been provided to support a conclusion of patentable distinctiveness between the identified groups. Also, it has not been shown that a burden exists in searching the claims of the eighteen (18) groups.

Moreover, the M.P.E.P. §803 states as follows:

If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without a serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on its merits, even though it includes claims to distinct or independent inventions.

Applicants respectfully submit that a search of all of the claims would not impose a serious burden on the Office.

Pursuant to the Examiner's request on page 7 of the Office Action, Applicants choose a compound of formula (I) wherein A is aryl, R1 and R2 are hydrogen, M is hydrogen and X is C5 alkylene. More specifically, this compound corresponds to ε-phthalimidoperoxyhexanoic acid.

Accordingly, and for the reasons presented above, Applicants submit that the Office has failed to meet the burden necessary in order to sustain the Restriction Requirement.

Withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement is respectfully requested.

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Applicants respectfully submit that the above-identified application is now in condition for examination on the merits, and early notice of such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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